

Preparing for the upcoming flu season.

The 2009 flu season will likely present a major public health challenge as we prepare for both seasonal flu and the new H1N1 (swine) flu, which has emerged as a pandemic across the globe. While most serious cases of seasonal flu occur in older adults and individuals with compromised immune systems and chronic disease, the H1N1 (swine) flu, has caused greater illness in children and young adults, in addition to pregnant women and those with chronic disease. Most flu cases completely recover. However, all influenza can cause serious illness, and cases of more severe H1N1 illness may occur in the future. [Read more...](#)

What is novel H1N1 (swine flu)?

Novel H1N1 (referred to as “swine flu” early on) is a new influenza virus causing illness in people. This new virus was first detected in people in the United States in April 2009. This virus is spreading from person-to-person worldwide, probably in much the same way that regular seasonal influenza viruses spread. On June 11, 2009, the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) signaled that a pandemic of novel H1N1 flu was underway [.read more...](#)

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